

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
7/22/13 – 8/4/13**

**DISTRICT 1**

CO Denny Gast was patrolling the Lake Superior shoreline when he observed two ORVs on the beach. When contacted, the operators said they did not feel like walking and had driven out to the lake past the "No ORVs on Beach" signs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman was able to contact a subject responsible for dumping a pickup load of garbage on the Little Lake snowmobile trail. The subject left identifying court paperwork in the trash along with other family member mail. Contact with the court personnel listed on the paperwork led to the subject confessing to the litter and an agreement that he would clean it up. Additional enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund assisted a Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper in Ontonagon County with the arrest of a subject wanted on terrorism warrants. The subject was taken into custody without incident and is awaiting extradition to Virginia for the felony terrorism charges.

CO Jason Wicklund was the first responder to a 911 call of an unconscious 15 year old who wasn't breathing. CO Wicklund assisted family members with first aid on the victim who was revived before the paramedics arrived. It was undetermined what caused the female to lose consciousness and stop breathing. She was transported to the local hospital and is doing well.

CO Jason Wicklund and a local deputy patrolled Iron County lakes checking for marine compliance. On one lake, the officers observed a vessel operating with no registration number. The operator of the vessel saw the officers and accelerated away from them toward his dock. Once the officers launched their patrol boat and made it to the place where the vessel was pulled up along shore, the officers observed the operator working in the yard. He denied operating the boat and wanted photographic proof. After a brief discussion, CO Wicklund issued him a ticket for operating an unregistered vessel.

CO Jason Wicklund went to a local "haunted" spot where locals gather in Ontonagon County. The CO observed several empty vehicles and heard screaming and went to investigate. The CO located several groups of people trying to cross the river to get closer to the phenomenon. After getting them back to their vehicles, CO Wicklund addressed several issues, including open intoxicants, minors in possession of alcohol, possession of marijuana, destruction of county property, littering, and indecent exposure. Local officers assisted with the enforcement action.

CO Jason Wicklund responded to a complaint of overdue kayakers in Gogebic County. The CO responded and used his patrol truck to navigate to the opposite side of the

lake. After a brief walk, the CO encountered a pair of elderly females who had swamped the kayaks in the high winds and waves and were sitting along the shoreline, unsure of how they were going to get back. CO Wicklund offered to load all of the gear and kayaks and transport them back to the highway, which they gratefully accepted.

## **DISTRICT 2**

COs Brett Gustafson, Jeff Panich and Mike Evink were conducting a marine patrol when they encountered a group of boats that were competing in a local fishing tournament. The subjects were all using too many fishing lines. Tickets were issued and the subjects were eliminated from the tournament.

CO Kevin Postma was on routine marine patrol when he encountered a subject with no personal flotation devices (PFDs). Further investigation revealed that the subject was also missing a throwable flotation device, fire extinguisher and flares. A ticket was issued for the life jackets and warnings were given for the other offenses.

COs Kyle Publiski and Kevin Postma responded to a complaint that an illegal gill net was set on Drummond Island. The COs located the net and pulled it. Several smallmouth bass were in the net and most were healthy enough to swim off when released. Over the next few days the COs developed a suspect. An interview was conducted and a full confession was obtained. Warrants are being sought in the case.

CO Jared Ferguson responded to a burning complaint in the Bark River area. When contacted, the subject stated that he had a permit from the DNR. Though he was burning during the evening hours, what he was burning caused some problems. The main item burning was a wooden shed. Inside the shed and giving off a large plume of black smoke were two tires and at least one mattress. The local fire department extinguished the blaze. A ticket was issued for improper disposal of solid waste.

CO Mike Evink contacted subjects panning for gold on the shore of Lake Superior. The subjects were using a power sluice box and a water pump. The unsuccessful pair were warned for using the power equipment.

CO Mike Evink was called out from his residence at 10:30 p.m. regarding a subject burning solid waste on his property. The individual had been doing this for a few years but contact was not able to be made in the past. CO Evink went to the scene and found the subject was burning dressers and mattresses along with other toxic items. He was ticketed for unlawful disposal of solid waste.

CO Mike Evink assisted Manistique Public Safety with a subject who stated he was "re-arranging" his apartment. He was doing this by throwing all items in the apartment from the second floor balcony. The officers were able to convince the subject to self-admit at the local hospital for evaluation.

CO Mike Evink assisted local agencies with the search and rescue of an 86 year old female with dementia. She had walked into the woods and not come out. A search was conducted and the woman was later found assisting a neighbor with gardening.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Duane Budreau and Sgt. Greg Drogowski worked with the special investigative unit on a live catfish buy. Retired Lt. Walt Mikula noticed a subject soliciting to purchase live catfish. A buy/sell was arranged and the subject purchased what he believed were catfish that had been caught by a sport-fisherman. A subsequent traffic stop resulted in an admission and ticket for the purchase of sport caught fish.

CO Jon Sklba and the local deputies worked a joint investigation on subjects that had shot a deer at night in mid-July with the aid of an artificial light. A confession was obtained and a warrant for the illegal killing of a deer was issued.

CO Duane Budreau obtained a warrant for the illegal killing of a deer that involved a large buck shot in muzzleloader season, at night, over an illegal bait pile, with a centerfire rifle.

CO Mike Feagan, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) ticketed an individual for discharging an oil based substance into the waterway.

CO Kelly Ross received a complaint of bullets being fired over a house. CO Ross, assisted by CO Nick Torsky, responded to the location with the assistance of the MSP and local deputies. Seven teenagers were located target practicing and in possession of a large quantity of alcohol and marijuana. They were charged with various alcohol, marijuana, and firearms violations.

CO Mark DePew and Sgt. Joe Molnar were at a state launch site when a boat with three anglers came to shore, and when asked how their fishing trip was, they replied that they had caught numerous white bass. The COs discovered no white bass, only six undersized smallmouth bass. The COs issued one ticket for possessing undersized fish and instructed the anglers on fish identification.

### **DISTRICT 4**

CO Holly Pennoni observed two women fishing in a rowboat on Barry Lake in Wexford County. Upon contact one angler displayed a fishing license and the other claimed to have one but not with her. CO Pennoni attempted to ascertain if she had a fishing license by running information given by the angler in our RSS system. CO Pennoni also attempted to verify identification via LEIN. Driver license photos were sent to CO Pennoni, two photos of the same person one heavy set and the other considerably thinner. The identification via LEIN showed a person in their early 20's, CO Pennoni was looking at someone in their 30's. After many stories ranging from having gastric

by-pass surgery to explain weight loss in photos, the angler finally admitted that she did not have a fishing license. A ticket was issued.

COs Steve Converse and Sam Koscinski responded on a missing person complaint in Wexford County. The missing person who has Alzheimer's had wandered away from camp. CO Koscinski was able to locate the person who was outside the search perimeter area set up by responders. Subject was taken back to camp without incident.

CO Carla Soper, Manistee County, responded to a complaint that a subject had recently taken a deer illegally. CO Soper responded to the suspect residence and found evidence of a freshly killed deer and was able to locate the carcass buried in the yard. CO Soper obtained a warrant for illegal possession of a deer without a permit or license. The suspect was not able to post the \$500 bond for the offense and was lodged at the Manistee County Jail. The case is pending prosecution.

CO Mike Wells responded to a drowning of a subject on the Muskegon River in Newaygo County during a large tubing event. CO Wells and sheriff's deputies organized a search for the victim that included searching on foot, via watercraft, and a helicopter. The victim was located after two days, and an autopsy revealed that the victim had drowned.

Sgt. Michael Bomay and CO Brian Brosky were working on the Manistee River in Manistee County when they observed two anglers downstream from a bridge attempting to snag salmon. CO Brosky hid by the bridge while Sgt. Bomay hid their patrol truck. The anglers eventually came back up stream and were still attempting to snag. COs watched one angler litter by depositing parts of his cigarette pack in the river. Sgt. Bomay and CO Brosky contacted the anglers, who denied everything. The COs then gave the anglers a highlight reel of their actions and their denials stopped. One of the anglers had two outstanding warrants for his arrest, and the other was ticketed for littering and snagging.

CO Brian Brosky was working on the Manistee River when he observed an angler attempting to snag fish with an unbaited hook. Upon contact the angler cut his fishing line and denied his actions. CO Brosky explained that he had been watching him and the angler confessed, advising the CO that there were so many salmon he "just couldn't resist". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was working on the Manistee River in Manistee County when he observed two anglers with fly rods attempting to snag salmon while using illegal fishing gear. CO Brosky eventually identified himself and yelled to the anglers in the river that if they cut their fishing lines, they would go to jail. Both anglers disregarded CO Brosky's direction and cut their fishing lines. The anglers were both lodged in jail with several tickets bestowed upon them as well.

CO Brian Brosky was working in the Silver Lake State Park Sand Dunes when he stopped an ORV driver for exhibition driving. The subject provided CO Brosky with a

false name. After CO Brosky figured out his real name, it was discovered that the subject had a suspended driver's license and a warrant out for his arrest. The subject was lodged in the local jail.

COs Troy Van Gelderen and Brian Brosky responded to a complaint in Mason County of a subject asking for a ride from an elderly woman while he had a shotgun in his possession. The woman's son gave the subject a ride to a camp in the woods and then called the local U S Forest Service (USFS) with the camp location. The COs and an officer with the USFS responded to the location and found three male subjects, a female, and three children living in the woods. The subject with the shotgun said that he had walked into town to get the shotgun from a family member because he thought he heard a bear growl the night before. The subjects were camped in an illegal location. One subject at camp had a firearm afield without a proper hunting license. The female subject at camp had an outstanding warrant out for her arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Chuck McPherson received a complaint from an eyewitness reporting that he had observed a subject shoot at three ducks in the water on Houghton Lake. The witness stated that one of the ducks was killed in the shooting. CO McPherson located the suspect, who admitted to shooting the ducks because he felt they were a nuisance to the lakefront property owners. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Liestenfeltz and John Huspen made several contacts while patrolling Houghton Lake for the Bud Bash event. During one stop of a vessel, CO Liestenfeltz identified the operator as a 20-year old male. During questioning, it became apparent that the subject was under the influence of alcohol. Field sobriety tests were conducted and a PBT was administered. The subject's blood alcohol content was over the legal limit and he was arrested for operating a watercraft while impaired and minor in possession.

COs John Huspen and Chuck McPherson testified at a jury trial in Crawford County on a case where a subject shot a trophy whitetail deer from outside the fence of a game ranch in October 2012. After two full days of hearing witnesses and analyzing evidence, the jury deliberated for two hours and returned with a guilty verdict for the charges of larceny over \$20,000, felony firearm, and criminal trespass. A sentencing date has been scheduled but the conviction will require mandatory prison time for the offender.

While patrolling Twin Lake in Kankakee County, CO Mike Hearn observed two personal watercraft (PWCs) operating around the lake with a person being towed on a tube behind one of the vessels. Upon closer examination, it was determined that the person pulling the tuber did not have an observer on board. Contact was made with the operator of the PWC who stated the second vessel was being used as a "spotter" to pick up the tuber if they fell off. The operator of the second PWC was a juvenile and

was operating without a Boater's Safety Certificate. Both vessels had various registration violations. A ticket was issued to the adult operator for the violations.

Three subjects in a boat watched as CO Jason McCullough launched his boat onto a local lake in Clare County. Upon contacting the anglers, one of the subjects claimed he was not fishing and was just along for the ride. After wrapping up the rest of the patrol on the water, CO McCullough loaded his vessel and drove a short distance down the road. Within minutes, the subject who claimed not to be fishing picked up a fishing pole and began to fish. The CO watched for a considerable amount of time before going back and launching his boat for the second time. Again, the subjects saw him launch and the subject put down his fishing pole before the CO arrived. This time, upon contact, the subject tried to claim an injury prevented him from handling a fishing pole. It did not work and the subject was issued a ticket for fishing without a license.

CO Steve Lockwood went on a several mile patrol down a remote stretch of river from Beaverton toward Wixom Lake in Gladwin County. As the CO rounded a bend in the stream, he saw an angler in the stream fishing. When the angler noticed CO Lockwood, he immediately started fumbling with a stringer attached to his leg. Unfortunately for him, he was not quick enough and when the CO contacted him, the subject knew he was in trouble and simply said, "Well, you probably got me". As it turned out, the stringer contained four undersized walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint regarding a large gasoline spill in Secord Lake. CO Papineau arrived at the local marina to find the local fire department deploying booms into the lake to control a large slick on the surface of the water. While interviewing the station attendant, CO Papineau learned that a customer began pumping gas, walked into the store, and returned to the vehicle more than one half hour later to find the pump had failed to shut off automatically. Nearly 100 gallons of gasoline had been discharged into the parking lot and then drained directly into the lake. CO Papineau ticketed the customer for leaving the gas pump unattended. Officials from the DNR, DEQ, and Department of Agriculture continue to investigate additional violations and monitor the mandatory remediation of the contaminated cement and soil.

## **DISTRICT 6**

COs Joel Lundberg and Dan Lee observed a large plume of black smoke drifting across M-18 in Midland County. The COs located a family in the process of burning a barn. They explained to the COs that they had sold off most of the wood from the barn and that the only things they were burning were the roof, insulation, electrical and plumbing leftovers. The COs explained that the worst things they could burn are those items. A ticket was issued.

CO Joel Lundberg had spent several weekends patrolling a section of state land that had been repeatedly torn up by very large mudder trucks. The CO patrolled the area three weekends in a row. Finally, after checking the area on a late Monday night, four mudder trucks exited the state land and were stopped by the CO. Two of the large

mudder trucks were being towed by the other two trucks, as they had broken down while tearing up the trails. Violations included open intoxicants in a motor vehicle, litter, no registrations, no insurance, and drive motor vehicles where prohibited on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Quincy Gowenlock received a call from local dispatch of a deer that had jumped through a window at a local church in the City of Saint Louis. Upon arrival the CO was met by a local police officer who advised that the deer jumped through the basement window and was trapped inside. The CO and the local officer went into the basement and located the deer, which was jumping onto the counters and destroying the kitchen in the basement. The officers were able to open a door which led directly to the outside. Unfortunately the deer was frightened and wedged itself behind a huge industrial stove and the wall. The CO had to reach in behind the stove while the deer was kicking and scare it out. Once it was out the deer saw the light leading to the outside and took off running and made it out of the building. The church officials then started their big cleanup project.

While patrolling the Flat River State Game Area (SGA), CO Larn R. Strawn observed a van parked in a state land parking area. Upon approaching the van the CO observed that the side cargo door was open and could see a man and a woman lying on a mattress in the back of the van. The CO announced his presence and asked the couple for their identifications. The man provided his driver license, however the woman said she had none. The CO contacted Station 20 and requested their assistance with identifying the woman, given the limited information she was willing to provide. Ultimately, the CO identified the woman and the arrested her for outstanding warrants.

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly checked a group of anglers who had pulled their boat up onto shore and planned on spending the day in the Shiawassee River SGA. The four had set up their day camp along the Bad River where it met the Shiawassee River. The Sgt. encounter a few violations, including no fishing licenses, no PFDs, no boat registration, a ground fire, which is prohibited in the game area, litter and alcohol violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin conducted surveillance on two anglers in a boat and contacted the pair when he observed they were fishing with too many lines. During the check, the CO also found one of the anglers had no fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was patrolling on a heavily used state highway when he observed a vehicle travelling close to 100 mph and passing other motorists in an unsafe manner. CO Rhodea was able to catch up to the vehicle and get it stopped. While talking with the driver, a second vehicle pulled over and thanked the CO for stopping the vehicle, and advised him of other unsafe activities of the driver. The driver was ticketed for reckless driving.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted the operator of an ORV after observing the ORV being operated down the main travelled lane of a state highway, at a high rate of speed and

the operator with no helmet. Upon contact with the operator, additional violations were also found. The operator was ticketed for failing to wear a helmet and operating an ORV on a state highway, and warned about the other violations.

CO Scott Brown worked the Rush Lake SGA due to the increased amount of illegal ORV activity that he had been finding. CO Brown was able to contact a total of seven people who were operating ORVs in the SGA. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Smith assisted the Thumb Narcotics Unit (TNU) with their annual Hemp flight in search of illegal marijuana growing operations. CO Smith and the TNU located and seized 244 marijuana plants from large tracts of state land.

While passing through the Verona SGA, CO Bob Hobkirk observed a vehicle parked at the back of one of the parking areas. As CO Hobkirk approached the vehicle, he observed two individuals inside. When contact was made, CO Hobkirk observed an elderly man sexually assaulting a juvenile. The man was arrested by CO Hobkirk and charged with criminal sexual conduct, 3rd degree. Additional information was turned over to the local police agency for further investigation.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Brad Brewer observed a boat towing a skier without an observer. Upon stopping the boat, CO Brewer observed two dogs in the boat. The driver of the boat tried to claim that the dogs were trained to let him know when the skier fell. The driver was ticketed for towing without an observer.

CO Michael Mshar responded to a complaint of a subject taking overlimits of panfish on a local inland lake, and found the angler 27 panfish over the legal limit. It was also determined by CO Mshar that this was a subject he had dealt with in the past for previous over the legal limit violations. While taking enforcement action two more subjects were located in the area and ticketed for fishing without licenses.

CO Michael Mshar assisted local police officers in response to a shots fired complaint, where an individual had been shot. When contact was made it was determined that an intoxicated subject was shooting his intoxicated friend with a BB gun.

CO Cary Foster contacted four juveniles operating dirt bikes and quads along a county road in Ionia County. After returning them to a residence where the ride had originated, each rider was instructed to have their parent contact CO Foster by phone. CO Foster was able to speak with each parent and review the issues involving illegal operation of the ORVs and proper supervision of the minors.

CO Foster, while working with CO Greg Patten and Lt. Tim Robson, conducted patrols of the Grand River during the Coast Guard Festival at Grand Haven. During this patrol they issued tickets for registration violations, use of an improper PFD, and assisted in maintaining safety zones for the fireworks event. Late in the patrol a small boat was



operating in the crowded area with no navigational lights. Further investigation led to the suspicion of the operator being intoxicated. Field sobriety and breath test confirmed these suspicions and the operator was taken into custody for boating while intoxicated.

COs Foster and Rich Nickols contacted three anglers at the Lyons Dam who were in possession of six undersized smallmouth bass and four undersized catfish. Upon the contact COs found the anglers cooking the catfish over an open fire along the river. All three were ticketed for retaining undersized fish.

CO Greg Patten reported the conclusion of a court case where he ticketed a person for purchasing hunting licenses while being revoked. During a sentencing in Muskegon County, the judge fined the subject more than \$300 and issued an additional three years revocation of all hunting privileges, while adding three years of fishing license revocations to the most recent sentence.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Damon Owens reports closing a case involving a subject for possession of wildlife in captivity. The subject had unlawfully transported several raccoons from another county and was attempting to release them within Jackson County. This unlawful act also was found to violate the individual's current probation from other crimes committed and may possibly cause an adverse effect on time served within a local correctional facility.

CO Dan Bigger finished an investigation of subjects operating PWCs on the Shiawassee River and traveling up the Corunna Dam during high waters after storm run-off raised the water levels. The subjects were warned about the dangers of the dam and reminded there had been fatalities at the dam due to the turbulent water and undertow. They agreed it was not a smart thing to be doing, removed the video from You-Tube, and apologized for poor decision making.

Responding to a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint, CO Todd Thorn arrived at a residence and located a live raccoon in a small cage in some long grass next to the house. The raccoon had been trapped in another county recently and was being used to train dogs. The raccoon had to be euthanized and enforcement action was taken.

While on marine patrol, COs Jeff Walker and Todd Thorn contacted two men in a small aluminum boat with improper registration numbers affixed to the side of the boat. Further investigation revealed that there were no PFDs on the boat and they were in possession of four undersized bass. The operator of the vessel stated that he had kept the bass because he thought that the minimum size limit for them was 12 inches. When the fish were measured by the COs, only one of the fish was even 12 inches long. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Rich Nickols and Todd Thorn worked an evening patrol of the Bruin Lake chain where approximately 26 fish and marine contacts were made. Two marine warnings

were given and one ticket was issued to a subject who was found with an undersized bass after he'd told the COs that he did not have any fish. After the fish were found, the man told the COs that this was his first year fishing and because of that he didn't know the laws. CO Nickols checked his fishing license purchase history and found that he had been purchasing fishing licenses since 2009.

COs Rich Nickols and Carey Foster worked a joint patrol to check fishing and marine activity on the Grand River. The COs located two subjects fishing downriver from the Lyons Dam. The subjects were in possession of a bag containing four suckers, two legal channel catfish, five undersized channel catfish, and one six inch flathead catfish. Also found with the subjects were five bass that had been placed on skewers and cooked on a campfire. All the bass were undersized. The subjects claimed they did not speak or understand English, although they did possess fishing licenses and Michigan Driver's licenses. Tickets were issued for the undersized fish.

CO Rich Nickols launched his patrol boat to conduct an evening patrol on a Livingston County Lake. Shortly after launching, CO Nickols observed three subjects in a small aluminum boat with fishing equipment. The subject in the middle of the boat was hunched down and appeared to have something in his hands. CO Nickols contacted the subjects and checked fishing licenses and also found the boat was short one PFD. CO Nickols asked if there was anything in the boat they should not have. The subjects appeared baffled by the question and asked for clarification. CO Nickols responded "You know, like drugs." The subjects admitted to possessing marijuana and the subject in the middle had been rolling a joint when CO Nickols approached. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller was first on scene to a domestic violence call just down the road from a state boat launch. The original call was that the subject was threatening people in the house with a knife. CO Miller arrived and was able to separate the parties while the subject with the knife was still inside. Using verbal commands CO Miller was able to bring the subject out to him, where he could search him for weapons and interview him. CO Miller was later backed up by local deputies, and the parties were separated for the night.

CO Derek Miller was on marine patrol at Devils Lake and stopped a subject displaying a Texas registration, with an expired Michigan marine decal. The subject was unable to provide updated registration for the boat and was short two PFDs. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol COs Mike Drexler and Derek Miller observed anglers and boats at a local boat launch. As they observed the subjects, one of the men spotted their patrol truck parked up the hill and told his partner they were there. The other subject then grabbed a bucket of fish, which also had trash in it, and dumped it in the lake. Upon contact the subjects stated they dumped the fish because they didn't have licenses. One of the subjects then stated that he did have a license, but it wasn't with him at that time. The water was now full of dead fish and trash. A ticket was issued for littering.

CO Jason Smith was working marine patrol when he checked an angler fishing. The angler stated that he did not have a license and he was not fishing. The angler admitted to fishing after the CO explained that he had been observing him. That was the least of the angler's problems. The angler had five warrants totaling \$157,000 in bond. The angler was not able to post bond and was lodged in the county jail.

COs Daniel Prince, Jason Smith and Derek Miller assisted the Livingston County and Washtenaw County SAR Teams along with the MSP Dive Team search Whitmore Lake for a man who drowned. The man fell into the water while fishing. Law enforcement and rescue personnel searched Whitmore Lake for four days before Lake residents found the man in the water.

CO Pete Purdy contacted two anglers in a vessel with the MC numbers painted over. There were two subjects on board who advised they repainted the vessel and had the new MC numbers and current registration sticker at home. It turned out the vessel's registration had been expired since 2009. One of the anglers didn't purchase a 2013 fishing license and there was only one PFD between the two. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster observed an ORV being operated on a busy public roadway. CO Webster stopped the ORV operator who was not wearing a helmet and asked what he was doing. The operator advised he had just bought the ORV and was taking it to the party store which was several miles further up the road. Officer Webster explained his violations and enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 9**

As CO Kris Kiel was finishing up a joint marine patrol with the Macomb County Sheriff Marine Division, a mayday was heard over the marine radio of a vessel taking on water off of Metro Beach. The subject stated that he did not think he would make it to shore. CO Kiel and the deputies were first on the scene, where they found two adult males not wearing PFDs. The subjects were transferred to the Sheriff boat and the Sheriff Department's pumps were deployed and turned on to empty the bilge of the quickly sinking vessel. CO Kiel asked the boat owner why he thought water was coming in the boat. The boat owner stated that he had plugged a hole in the boat with a "t-shirt" and the bilge pump had been working fine, although constantly, for the last few hours while they fished. It was not until the bilge pump quit that he started to worry. The subjects were transported back to shore while their vessel was towed.

CO Kris Kiel, while conducting a marine patrol on Lake St. Clair, contacted the operator of a PWC being operated with an expired 2011 registration decal. The operator had not taken the required boater's safety class and did not possess the paper registration. Upon running the registration, it was found to be expired in 2011. The operator said that the PWC belonged to his brother who told him that it was expired, but that no one would bother him about it. Enforcement action was taken. Minutes later, a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary waved CO Kiel over to shore where he explained that he had

told the operator that he should not operate the PWC due to the expired registration and other marine safety violations.

CO Todd Szyska was one of the first on scene to respond to a report of a barricaded gunman in Macomb County. The report from dispatch relayed that the female caller (wife) came home and saw a note that her husband had left on the counter. The note stated that he was a monster and that he was inside the family RV parked in the driveway of the home, and that he had a shotgun. CO Szyska, two MSP troopers, and a local deputy cleared the neighbors from the surrounding homes, and took defensive positions until a Sgt. from the Michigan State Police Emergency Services Team arrived on scene. A quick plan was formulated and the RV was searched. The male subject was found inside the bathroom of the RV; he had apparently committed suicide.

While checking the area near a popular fishing site on the Detroit River, Sgt. Arthur Green observed a person who was about 30 yards inside of a fenced construction area that was posted "No Trespassing". The subject walked back toward Sgt. Green, stepped under a guard rail toward the river and around the fence. When asked why he was in the posted area he replied "I was just taking a picture." Sgt. Green pointed out the four signs that read "No Trespassing", and "Construction Area Danger Keep Out" and the subject repeated he was just taking a picture and he did not see what the problem was. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Ennett and Dan Walzak conducted a patrol on the lower Detroit River and the surrounding waters of Grosse Ile. CO Ennett ticketed one boat operator for failing to provide an adequate number of PFDs on board his vessel. CO Walzak ticketed another boat operator for failing to have a Type IV PFD on board. This same person also caught a large catfish while the COs were in the process of ticketing him. The fish was hooked on its tail, but instead of returning the foul-hooked fish to the water, he promptly put it into his fishing bucket. CO Walzak advised him about the rules concerning foul-hooked fish, of which the angler was unaware. CO Walzak gave him a warning for retaining a foul-hooked fish and it was put back into the river.

CO Mark Ennett was conducting a marine patrol along the shoreline of Sterling State Park. A piece of machinery apparently called a Fly Board was being operated by a man who was connected to a nearby PWC via a system of hoses and controls. The device uses the controls on board to power the Fly Board using the thrust from the PWC, allowing acrobatic movements such as elevating several feet out of the water. At one point, the operators of the Fly Board and the PWC decided to rest awhile by beaching the device. The problem was they took the shortest route back to shore right through the protected and marked Swimming Area. CO Ennett managed to contact the pair before they could disembark, at the same time a pair of State Park Officers were contacting them on shore for the same swim area violation. CO Ennett issued a ticket for a vessel entering a marked swim area.

While working a group marine patrol detail in Anchor Bay, COs Dan Walzak and Lacelle Rabon observed a diver close to shore who was trying to get their attention. As the COs slowly approached, the diver started pointing at another vessel, claiming that while

he was submerged in the five foot water, and while properly displaying a diver's flag, the vessel motored by coming within 15 feet of him. As the COs approached the other vessel, the operator was visibly shaken by the "near miss". The operator also stated that as he went by he didn't even notice the flag and felt terrible about it. An inspection of his vessel revealed that he was also missing a throwable PFD and had registration issues. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Lacelle Rabon contacted an angler who did not have a fishing license. The angler stated the store where he normally purchases his fishing license has been closed, and he decided that he was going to fish, but he would not keep anything that he caught and thought he would not be violating fishing regulations. CO Rabon advised the angler he needed a fishing license even if he was catching and releasing the fish. The angler stated he did not think that was fair. After CO Rabon explained the law to the angler a second time and took enforcement action.

CO Mike Drexler was observing shore anglers from across the lake in Belleville. After watching an angler for twenty minutes CO Drexler drove over to the shore angler who immediately started telling the CO that he caught four bluegill. After checking a fishing license the CO stated he wanted to see the fish and the angler stated "the four bluegills are mine." An undersized smallmouth bass was also located and the angler stated his friend caught the fish, put it in his bucket, and left to go get something from the store. CO Drexler asked the angler about how long ago his friend left and the angler said about five minutes. CO Drexler pointed out where he was observing the angler from across the lake and asked if his story changed. The angler admitted to catching the bass and a ticket was issued.

CO Mike Drexler was on patrol when he observed an ORV operating off of the roadway with three juveniles on board, none of whom were wearing helmets. The CO observed another serious safety hazard with a young girl riding backwards on the front cargo rack as the ORV drove up and down a few hills. The CO immediately stopped the ORV and returned the juveniles to their grandparents down the road. The grandparents didn't see an issue with how the three juveniles were riding the ORV and argued with the CO about how they didn't think helmets were necessary. A ticket and several verbal warnings were issued to the grandparents.

COs Mike Drexler and Lacelle Rabon checked several anglers at the Nine-Mile Road fishing pier in Macomb County. One angler dug around in his wallet looking for his license and stated that he purchased one but couldn't find it. An RSS check revealed that his last purchase was over a year ago. The angler stated he thought licenses were valid for a year from the purchase date. He was educated on how even if that were true; he would be two months late. Enforcement action was taken.